

October 22, 1990

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-90-60A

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Tennessee Valley Authority  
Sequoyah Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-327  
Soddy Daisy, Tennessee

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
 Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: FORCED SHUTDOWN DUE TO STEAM SYSTEM CHECK VALVE FAILURE

This is an update of the PN issued October 9, 1990. The three check valves which were modified and weld repaired during the March to May 1990 refueling outage were the only Main Steam Check Valves (MSCV) found damaged.

The Augmented Inspection Team for the Sequoyah Unit 1 MSCV failure problems exited on October 19, 1990. The exit was followed by a press conference at 1:00 p.m. conducted jointly by TVA and NRC. The cause of the MSCV failures was due to high cycle fatigue failure of the disk post induced by the previous weld repairs performed on the post. Corrective actions included fabrication of new posts and installation of two additional valve disk stops per valve. Acoustical monitors were installed on the check valves to aid in future identification of failures.

Repairs to the MSCVs were completed on October 20, 1990. Sequoyah Unit 1 went critical at 8:00 a.m., on October 21 and began power operations at 7:43 p.m. that day. The unit is currently in a chemistry hold at 30% power. The licensee intends to radiograph the MSCVs at 100% power and take baseline acoustical data.

NRC staff continues to review the actions of TVA on this issue.

Media attention is expected.

The State of Tennessee has been informed.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m., on October 22, 1990.

CONTACT: B. Wilson - 841-5526

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PNO-II-90-060A PNU

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